

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EA-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /063 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RDLORTON:EI

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

IO/UNP:CSCHALLER

EA/LC:AANTIPPAS (INFO)

NEA/INS:DKUX

EA/K:EKELLY (INFO)

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TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 274790

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, CB, NP, KN, KS

SUBJECT: KHMER AND KOREA IN 29TH UNGA: NEPAL

DELIVER 8:00 A.M.

1. ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER CALLED IN NEPALESE AMBASSADOR KHANAL DECEMBER 13 TO EXPRESS, AT THE REQUEST OF THE SECRETARY, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S STRONG DISAPPOINTMENT WITH NEPAL'S VOTES ON KHMER REPRESENTATION IN THE 29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION. LORTON, NEA/INS, SAT IN.

2. NOTING THAT AMBASSADOR CARGO HAD HAD A NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WITH THE NEPALESE FOREIGN MINISTER, SOBER SAID WE BELIEVED NEPAL GENUINELY PROFESSED A POLICY OF NONALIGNMENT AND SUPPORTED THE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. HENCE, WE WERE NOT ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY THEY COULD NOT SUPPORT A CONSTRUCTIVE RESOLUTION DESIGNED TO BRING THE CONTENDING

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PARTIES IN CAMBODIA TOGETHER TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT.

SOBER NOTED WE WERE MAKING THIS SPECIAL EFFORT WITH NEPAL BECAUSE WE CONSIDERED THEM TO BE A FRIEND.

3. SOBER THEN MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY THERE MIGHT BE A CHALLENGE TO THE KHMER DELEGATION'S CREDENTIALS WHEN THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT WAS VOTED ON NEXT WEEK. WE HOPED THE GON WOULD OPPOSE ANY SUCH CHALLENGE BECAUSE THIS WOULD REOPEN THE QUESTION AND BE CONTRARY TO THE GA'S

DECISION TO AWAIT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT AT THE NEXT SESSION BEFORE TAKING ANY FURTHER ACTION.

4. EXPRESSING OUR APPRECIATION FOR NEPAL'S ABSTENTION ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION ON KOREA, SOBER SAID WE HOPED THAT IF NEPAL COULD NOT SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION AS APPROVED BY THE FIRST COMMITTEE, THAT IT WOULD AT LEAST CONTINUE ITS POLICY OF ABSTENTION ON KOREAN MATTERS IN THE PLENARY VOTE EXPECTED NEXT WEEK.

5. ON KOREA, KHANAL REPLIED HE SAW NO PROBLEM INASMUCH AS HE EXPECTED NEPAL TO ABSTAIN. AS FOR CAMBODIA, HOWEVER, HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ASK US TO UNDERSTAND NEPAL'S POSITION. NEPAL SAW NONALIGNMENT AS NOT BELONGING TO ANY PARTICULAR BLOCK OF COUNTRIES AND AS DECIDING ISSUES ON THEIR MERITS. FOR EXAMPLE, HE POINTED OUT NEPAL'S POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH THEY HAD BEEN UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO CHANGE. HOWEVER, ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST HAD TO BE MAINTAINED WHILE SEEKING A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY IF WORLD CONFLICT WERE TO BE AVOIDED. NEPAL UNDERSTOOD OUR CONCERN AND APPRECIATED THE INTEREST WE HAD TAKEN IN DISCUSSING KHMER ISSUE WITH IT. FURTHER THE GON APPRECIATED GENERAL U.S. POLICY TOWARD NEPAL. HE AGREED TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO HIS GOVERNMENT.

6. SOBER SAID HE THOUGHT KHANAL WAS IMPLYING THAT SIHANOUK'S CASE WAS BETTER ON ITS MERITS. KHANAL SAID THIS SEEMED TO BE THE CASE AND THAT ALTHOUGH SIHANOUK HIMSELF WAS IN PEKING, HE APPEARED TO HAVE A CONSIDERABLE FOLLOWING IN CAMBODIA. SOBER REPLIED THAT WE DISAGREED

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WITH THIS ANALYSIS.

7. SOBER RECALLED KHANAL'S POINT ABOUT NONALIGNMENT AND POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WE WERE AWARE OF THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE 1973 ALGIERS CONFERENCE TO SUPPORT SIHANOUK, WE DID NOT SEE THIS AS A PROPER EXTENSION OF NONALIGNMENT. IN FACT A NUMBER OF NONALIGNED COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, HAD OPPOSED THIS. KHANAL REPLIED THAT

NEPAL RESERVED THE RIGHT TO INTERPRET NONALIGNMENT AS IT
SAW IT AND THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE ITS POLICY
DECISIONS ON WHAT IT SAW AS THE MERITS OF THE CASE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBER ADMISSIONS, TROOP REDUCTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE274790
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RDLORTON:EI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740364-0219
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741234/aaaabcsv.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <27 MAR 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHMER AND KOREA IN 29TH UNGA: NEPAL DELIVER 8:00 A.M.
TAGS: PFOR, CB, NP, KN, KS, UNGA
To: KATHMANDU
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005